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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/617,545	07/14/2000	Toshio Ariyasu	Ariyasu=1A	5549

1444 7590 09/23/2003

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.
624 NINTH STREET, NW
SUITE 300
WASHINGTON, DC 20001-5303

EXAMINER

KAUFMAN, CLAIRE M

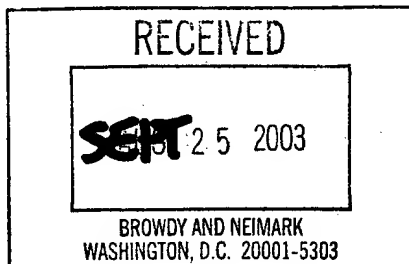
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1646

DATE MAILED: 09/23/2003

#20/14

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NO/ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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18

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Commissioner for Patents

With entry of the attached Examiner's Amendment, all claims are in condition for allowance. The Examiner's Amendment does not change the scope of the claims.

All claims are allowable. However, due to a potential interference, ex parte prosecution is **SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS** from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Claire M. Kaufman, whose telephone number is (703) 305-5791. Dr. Kaufman can generally be reached Monday through Thursday from 8:30AM to 12:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yvonne Eyler, can be reached at (703) 308-6564.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Official papers filed by fax should be directed to (703) 308-4242. Faxed draft or informal communications with the examiner should be directed to (703) 308-0294. **NOTE:** If applicant does submit a paper by fax, the original signed copy should be retained by the applicant or applicant's representative. **NO DUPLICATE COPIES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED** so as to avoid the processing of duplicate papers in the Office. Please advise the examiner at the telephone number above before facsimile transmission.

Claire M. Kaufman, Ph.D.

Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1646

September 17, 2003

**LORRAINE SPECTOR
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

Art Unit: 1646

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT


An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Sheridan Neimark on September 17, 2003.

The application has been amended as follows:

Replace claims 2, 3 and 4 as follows:

2. (Currently Amended) The DNA of claim 20, ~~and~~ which contains the whole of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

 3. (Currently Amended) An isolated DNA which encodes a desert hedgehog protein of human origin having the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:5, or an isolated DNA complementary thereto.

4. (Currently Amended) An isolated DNA which encodes a desert hedgehog protein of human origin having the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:6, or an isolated DNA complementary thereto.
